

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 02377 191258Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /026 W
-----113946 191300Z /43

R 191207Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8944

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 2377

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OREP (BIDEN, JOSEPH)
SUBJECT: CODEL BIDEN

REF: STATE 165455

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES PROPOSED VISIT OF SENATOR BIDEN.
ALTHOUGH NOT PARTICULARLY TIMELY IN TERMS OF TRADITIONAL
EUROPEAN SUMMER HOLIDAY PERIOD IT SHOULD BE USEFUL IN
TERMS OF EVOLUTION OF HUNGARIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS. CON-
TROL OFFICER WILL BE POLITICAL OFFICER ALAN HARDY.

2. IN VIEW OF SENATOR'S PROJECTED STAY OF TWO DAYS IN
HUNGARY WE DO NOT RECOMMEND VISITS OUTSIDE OF BUDAPEST.
WE SUGGEST CALLS AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (EITHER
DEPUTY MINISTER ISTVAN TOROK OR STATE SECRETARY BELA
SZALAI IF AVAILABLE); AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
(DEPUTY MINISTER JANOS NAGY); AND IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (ANDRAS GYENES, SANDOR
BARCS OR ISTVAN SARLOS; SARLOS IS MEMBER OF HSWP POLIT-
BURO, GYENES IS HSWP FOREIGN POLICY EXPERT, AND BARCS IS
DIRECTOR OF HUNGARIAN OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY (MTI)).
WE BELIEVE THAT A SESSION AT MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
MIGHT PROVE USEFUL IF SENATOR BIDEN AGREES, PER-
HAPS HE COULD SUGGEST TOPICS HE MIGHT WISH TO DIS-
CUSS. EMBASSY WOULD PLAN COUNTRY TEAM BRIEFINGS
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FOR SENATOR BIDEN SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL.

3. ON SOCIAL SIDE EMBASSY ANTICIPATES INFORMAL
DINNER WITH HUNGARIAN GUESTS HOSTED BY AMB KAISER.
HUNGARIANS WILL OFFER A LUNCH. WE WOULD ALSO EXPECT
TO FIND TIME FOR A SHORT TOUR OF BUDAPEST.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE THAT SENATOR BIDEN VISIT BUDAPEST DURING THE WEEK. NEARLY ALL VIP DELEGATIONS OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS THAT HAVE COME TO HUNGARY HAVE ARRIVED ON WEEKEND. SINCE HUNGARIANS VALUE THEIR WEEKENDS, PARTICULARLY DURING THE SUMMER, WE HOPE THAT AN EFFORT CAN BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE HUNGARIAN SENSIBILITIES ON THIS SCORE. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT SENATOR BIDEN BEGIN HIS TOUR IN BUDAPEST AND WORK HIS WAY EAST THROUGH POLAND AND USSR. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES AUG20, CONSTITUTION DAY, IS A SPECIAL HUNGARIAN HOLIDAY AND PERIOD AUG 18-21 SHOULD THEREFORE BE AVOIDED. ANY OTHER TIME FRAME NO

PROBLEM AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE NOW.

5. WE HAVE ALERTED MFA TO VISIT AND AWAIT INFORMATION FROM DEPARTMENT ON DATES AND SCHEDULING PREFERENCES OF SENATOR BIDEN.
MUDD

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